IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

26) (Currently Amended) A software method for defining ~~and~~ an e-commerce and portal system, comprising the steps of:

connecting a product user e-commerce screen <u>of a computer</u> to the Internet <u>selecting a product from a product category;</u>

generating a product display corresponding to ~~a~~ <u>the</u> product on the product user e-commerce screen based upon a option variable question;

determining if a XSD is present for the ~~generated~~ product;

generating the option <u>variable</u> question ~~based upon~~ <u>only if</u> the XSD <u>is present</u>.

27) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> software method for defining ~~and~~ <u>the</u> e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD defines a title of data input.

28) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> software method for defining ~~and~~ <u>the</u> e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a width of the screen.

29(Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> software method for defining ~~and~~ <u>the</u> e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26 wherein the XSD includes a height of the screen.

30) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> software method for defining ~~and~~ <u>the</u> e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a title of the screen.

31) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> software method for defining ~~and~~ <u>the</u> e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a format of a prompt question.

32) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a data input error.

33) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes an edit rule.

34) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes an error message.

35) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes product option questions.

36) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes crosschecking between option selections.

37) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a minimum valid value for another element of the XSD.

38) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a minimum inclusive element.

39) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a minimum exclusive element.

40) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein the XSD includes a maximum inclusive element which includes a high boundary limit which may be reached.

41) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26, wherein ~~the boundary~~ the XSD includes a maximum exclusive element which includes a high boundary limit which may not be reached.

42) (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The software method for defining ~~and~~ the e-commerce and portal system as in claim 26 wherein the XSD includes a pattern element to specify a regular expression pattern of another element of the XSD.